shall not be predetermined, but shall be left to be determined by competitive market conditions.

Tapping of hydro power potential

85. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether hydro power potential in some States has not been tapped at the desirable pace;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some States are reluctant to follow the norms laid down by the Union Government in signing the MoUs for setting up of Hydro Power Projects in their States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) out of about 1,50,000 MW of exploitable hydro electric potential identified, 20.3% has been developed and 9.4% is under development. The hydro power potential of Northern, Eastern and North-Eastern States *viz*. Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh could not be harnessed at desired pace. The development of hydro potential has been slow due to the following reasons:

(i) Difficult/in-accessible sites.

(ii) Environment, Forest and Wildlife Clearance related problems.

(iii) Land acquisition and Rehabilitation problems.

(iv) Law and order problems.

(v) Paucity of Funds & longer gestation period.

(vi) Adverse geological conditions.

(vii) Inter-state aspects.

(vii) Higher initial construction cost.

(a) the targets fixed for rural electrification during Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether these have been fulfilled and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these rural electrification projects were undertaken by Government agencies and the work was allotted to private bodies; and

(d) what are the projections in the Eleventh Five Year Plan period, along with the annual targets?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) As per Ninth Five Year Plan documents an overall target for electrification of 30,000 villages had been set. During the plan, 13409 villages were electrified.

Out of 80,000 unelectrified villages estimated at that time, the Tenth Plan proposed to electrify 62,000 villages through grid supply. During the Plan 38,868 villages have been electrified uptil 19.2.2007.

The progress of village electrification during Ninth and Tenth Plan was not up to the desired level mainly due to following reasons:

- Earlier schemes like Minimum Needs Programme and Prime Minister's Grameen Rozgar Yojana provided for assistance under the State sector as additional Central assistance with the States allowed to choose the pace and direction of rural electrification. The funds had to be released to the States and in turn to the implementing agencies and in many cases the funds would not reach in time.
- The village electrification was left to the State Electricity Boards which were in bad financial health and not in a position to provide sufficient funds.
- The programme was not implemented on a top priority basis in a time frame.
- In the earlier schemes, the revenue sustainability of the additional electrification infrastructure was neglected and the SEBs were reluctant to take rural electrification as it would lead to more losses.

- The extent of involvement of the local community was left to the State.
- Under the earlier schemes, the task of maintenance of rural electricity infrastructure was with the State Utilities which did not have the necessary manpower in the rural areas; as a result substantial infrastructure became useless.

(c) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana assistance of major Central Public Sector Undertakings in the power sector, namely National Thermal Power Corporation, POWERGRID, National Hydro-electric Power Corporation & Damodar Valley Corporation has been offered to States. In 134 districts presently, CPSUs have been allocated rural electrification work and works in rest of the districts are to be executed by State power utilities/discoms. The State Power Utilities and CPSUs, under domestic competitive bidding have awarded the turn-key contracts for execution of works against sanctioned projects to the successful bidders.

(d) 65,000 villages are targeted for electrification under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana during Eleventh Plan. For 2007-08, it is targeted to electrify 20,000 unelectrified villages and the balance 45,000 in 2008-09.

Investments in power sector

88. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investment in Public, Private and Central sector made in power sector in the different parts of the country, State-wise during the last three years; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The details of expenditure incurred by Central Power Sector Undertakings in the power sector during the last three years is at Statement-I *(See* below*)*. Expenditure incurred by States/Union Territories in the power sector is at Statement -II *(See* below*)*. Private Sector expenditure in the power sector is not being maintained by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) Does not arise.